

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

POLL TAX—PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

S. J. R. No. 1

Proposing an amendment to Section 2 of Article VI of the Constitution, repealing the provision making the payment of a poll tax a qualification of an elector; requiring the Legislature to pass a general registration law for voters; providing for the necessary election, proclamation and publication by the Governor, and making an appropriation.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. Section 2, Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Texas be and the same is amended hereby so as to read hereafter as follows:

"Section 2. Every person subject to none of the foregoing disqualifications, who shall have attained the age of twenty-one (21) years, and who shall be a citizen of the United States, and who shall have resided in this State one (1) year next preceding an election and the last six (6) months within the district or county in which such person offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector; provided that before offering to vote at any election a voter shall have registered as an elector before the first day of February next preceding such election. This provision shall be self-enacting. The Legislature shall pass a general registration law requiring registration of voters at a time not later than the first day of February for each election to be held for that calendar year, and the Legislature shall have power to prescribe a registration fee. The Legislature may authorize absentee voting."

Sec. 2. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electorate of the State at an election to be held on the 24th day of September, 1949,¹ at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon (or in counties using voting machines the said machines shall provide for) the following:

"For the amendment to the Constitution of the State of Texas eliminating the provisions in said Constitution making the payment of poll tax a requirement for voting, and providing for a general registration law."

"AGAINST the amendment to the Constitution of the State of Texas eliminating the provisions in said Constitution making the payment of poll tax a requirement for voting, and providing for a general registration law."

Each voter shall mark out one of said clauses on the ballot, leaving the one expressing his vote on the proposed amendment; and if it shall appear from the returns of said election that a majority of the votes cast are in favor of said amendment, the same shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Texas.

Sec. 3. The Governor of the State of Texas shall issue the necessary proclamation for said election and have the same published as required by the Constitution and laws of this State.

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Sec. 4. The sum of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the Treasury of the State not otherwise appropriated to pay the expenses of such publication and election.

Passed the Senate, April 18, 1949: Yeas 25, Nays 2, 1 pair; June 14, 1949, Senate concurred in House amendment: Yeas 22, Nays 8; adopted by the House, April 26, 1949, with amendment: Yeas 100, Nays 31.

Approved June 18, 1949.

¹ Amendment by H.J.R. No. 46 provides for submission at an election to be held on the second Tuesday in November, 1949. See page 1500.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—JURORS— QUALIFICATIONS

S. J. R. No. 4

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Texas, by amending Section 19 of Article 16, so as to provide that the qualification of no person to serve as a juror on grand juries and on petit juries shall be denied or abridged on account of sex; providing that existing provisions of the Constitution shall be construed in conformity herewith; providing for the submission of this amendment to a vote of the people of Texas; providing the time, means and manner thereof; and making an appropriation for such purpose.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 19 of Article 16 of the Constitution of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

"Section 19. The Legislature shall prescribe by law the qualification of grand and petit jurors; provided that the qualification of no person for service on grand juries or on petit juries shall be denied or abridged on account of sex, and no person shall be exempt from service on grand juries or petit juries on account of sex."

Sec. 2. The foregoing Constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this State at an election to be held on the fourth Saturday in September, 1949,¹ at which all ballots shall have printed thereon:

"FOR the amendment to the State Constitution qualifying women as grand and petit jurors."

"AGAINST the amendment to the State Constitution qualifying women as grand and petit jurors."

Each voter shall scratch out one of said clauses on the ballot, leaving the one expressing his vote on the proposed amendment.

Sec. 3. The Governor shall issue his proclamation calling said election and have the same published and said election held in accordance with this Resolution and the Constitutional Laws of this State, and return shall be made and the votes canvassed and counted as provided by law; and if said amendment is adopted by the vote of the qualified electors of this State, the Governor shall issue his proclamation as required by law.

Passed the Senate, April 18, 1949: Yeas 23, Nays 7; May 23, 1949,

Senate concurred in House amendment: Yeas 23, Nays 5; passed the House, May 18, 1949, with amendment: Yeas 102, Nays 26.

Approved May 25, 1949.

¹ Amendment by H.J.R. No. 46 provides for submission at an election to be held on the second Tuesday in November, 1949. See page 1500.